

MARCH 19th, 1814.

Read the first and second time and committed to a committee of the whole house on Monday next.

A Bill

Concerning certificates of confirmation of claims to lands in the state of Louisiana.

1 *Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of*
2 *the United States of America in congress assembled, That*
3 in all cases where certificates of confirmation to lands lying in
4 either of the land districts established by law in the state of
5 Louisiana, have been issued agreeably with the provisions of
6 the act, entitled "An act respecting claims to lands in the ter-
7 ritories of Orleans and Louisiana," passed the third March,
8 one thousand eight hundred and seven, and which were direct-
9 ed to be filed with the proper register of the land office with-
10 in twelve months after date, and which are included in the
11 transcript of divisions made in favor of claimants and trans-
12 mitted to the secretary of the treasury, that the said certifi-

13 cates shall be by the said registers delivered to the principal de-
14 puty surveyor of the district, at any time after the expiration of
15 three months from the passage of this act, (unless where the
16 claimant shall otherwise specially direct,) whose duty it shall be,
17 under the direction of the principal surveyor south of Tennes-
18 see, to accurately survey and designate the land described in
19 the said certificates of confirmation, and make general and par-
20 ticular plats thereof, which he shall return to the office of the
21 proper register, together with the original certificates; and it
22 shall be the further duty of the said surveyor to make a like
23 return of the plats to the commissioner of the general land
24 office.

1 Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That so soon as the said
2 tracts of land shall have been thus surveyed and returned to
3 the office of the proper register, together with the original cer-
4 tificates of the commissioners, it shall be the duty of the said
5 register to issue certificates in favor of the claimants entitled
6 thereto, which he shall transmit to the commissioner of the
7 general land office, and if it shall appear to the satisfaction of
8 the said commissioner that the certificates have been fairly ob-
9 tained and correspond with the transcript heretofore transmit-
10 ted to the secretary of the treasury, and the plats returned by
11 the surveyor, patents shall be granted in like manner as is pro-
12 vided by law for the other public lands of the United States,
13 which patents shall be transmitted by the commissioner of the

14 general land office to the proper register, to be by him delivered
15 to the claimants entitled thereto, and the said register for deli-
16 vering the certificates to the surveyor, making out and forward-
17 ing the returns to the general land office, and delivering the pa-
18 tents, shall be entitled to, and receive from each claimant, the
19 sum of two dollars for such patent so delivered.